

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

Friday, May 7, 2021

The Honorable Janet Yellen
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20220

Dear Secretary Yellen:

The *American Rescue Plan Act* allocated \$350 billion for the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds with the aim of helping state, local, and tribal governments make critical investments to address their needs and accelerate our nation's recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Among these pressing needs is transportation infrastructure and community revitalization. As you write guidance for the use of these funds, we urge you to clarify that these funds may be used for investment in transportation infrastructure, including to fulfill the non-federal match requirements for such projects, and revitalization.

The text of the *American Rescue Plan Act* currently limits these funds to four eligible uses:

- (1) To respond to the public health emergency or its negative economic impact,
- (2) To respond to workers performing essential work during the public health emergency,
- (3) For the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue due to COVID-19 relative to revenue collected in the most recent full fiscal year, and
- (4) To make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.

As the law is written, it does not necessarily preclude investments in transportation infrastructure and revitalization, but further guidance is needed to provide certainty for state, local, and tribal governments as they determine how to allocate these limited funds to various priorities in their communities.

Since passage of this legislation in March, we have been in regular correspondence with state and local officials as they develop plans for how to utilize these funds most effectively. Infrastructure investments remain a predominant need in many of the communities we represent, and these critical investments are integral to economic recovery and community revitalization. We ask that you clarify that the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds may be used for transportation investments and to fulfill non-federal match requirements in federal infrastructure funding programs.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Dan Meuser
United States Representative



Susan M. Collins
United States Senator